

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 17829 092258Z

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1109

S E C R E T PARIS 17829

NODIS/CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR , US, FR, ECON, EFIN

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING'S CONCERNS ABOUT
COORDINATION OF ECONOMIC POLICIES

REF: STATE 159921

1. I CONVEYED REFTEL MESSAGE WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON
THROUGH CLAUDE PIERRE-BROSSOLETTE, GISCARD'S CHIEF
ASSISTANT AT THE PRESIDENCY. BROSSOLETTE THANKED ME
FOR THE MESSAGE AND SAID HE WOULD TRANSMIT IT TO GISCARD
IMMEDIATELY.

2. AS HE ALWAYS IS WITH ME, BROSSOLETTE WAS RELAXED
AND SPOKE FRANKLY. (PLEASE PROTECT HIS REMARKS). HE
SAID THAT HE WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH GISCARD'S TALK
WITH ME OR JUST WHAT GISCARD HAD IN MIND. HE THEN
CONJECTURED OUT LOUD THAT PERHAPS GISCARD WAS REFERRING
TO THE SAME THING THAT HE HAD NOW DISCLOSED IN THE INTER-
VIEW WITH HEARST, NAMELY, A SUMMIT MEETING ON MONETARY
AFFAIRS WHICH EVIDENTLY WOULD BE RESTRICTED TO THE
GROUP OF FIVE. BROSSOLETTE STATED THAT GISCARD'S
INTERVIEW WITH HEARST HAD BEEN TETE-A-TETE AND NEITHER
BROSSOLETTE NOR HIS ASSOCIATES HAD HAD AN OPPORTUNITY
TO REVIEW THE TEXT BEFORE IT WAS PRINTED. GISCARD'S
ADVANCING THE IDEA HAD COME AS A COMPLETE SURPRISE
TO HIS STAFF.

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3. BROSSOLETTE SAID HE HOPED THAT GISCARD'S AD-

VANCING THE IDEA PUBLICLY IN THIS WAY, RATHER THAN
THROUGH CONSULTATION WITH OTHER HEADS OF GOVERNMENT,
WOULD NOT HAVE A NEGATIVE EFFECT UPON THE IDEA BEING
ACCEPTED. HE ADDED THAT IN FACT IT WAS JUST AN IDEA,
NOT A PROPOSAL, AND THAT Giscard EVIDENTLY INTENDED
IT AS SUCH.

4. BROSSOLETTE RAISED SOME QUESTIONS ALSO WITH REGARD
TO THE TIMING OF SUCH A MONETARY SUMMIT. HE SPECULATED
THAT THE TIMING WITH REGARD TO DISCLOSURE OF THE IDEA OF
A RESTRICTED SUMMIT MIGHT NOT BE OPPORTUNE JUST
WHEN THE FRENCH WERE TRYING TO ORGANIZE A NEW ENERGY
CONFERENCE ON A RELATIVELY EXPANDED BASIS.

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